

S.291

Introduced by Senators Vyhovsky, Clarkson, Gulick, Hardy, Perchlik and

White

Referred to Committee on

Date:

Subject: Executive; governmental ethics; disclosures; travel disclosures

Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require legislators and elected statewide executive officers and their deputies to file disclosures detailing costs and associated information for any travel made in the course of the individual's official capacity or because of the individual's status that is paid for by any source other than the State or by that person themselves.

An act relating to travel disclosures for legislators and certain executive officers

It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

Sec. 1. 3 V.S.A. § 1214 is added to read:

§ 1214. TRAVEL DISCLOSURES

(a) Applicability.

(1) A member of the General Assembly or an executive officer shall file with the State Ethics Commission, or as otherwise directed by law, a disclosure

1 detailing costs and associated information for any travel made in the course of
2 the member's or executive officer's official capacity or that would not have
3 likely occurred but for the member's or executive officer's status of occupying
4 the member's or executive officer's office.

5 (2) Notwithstanding subdivision (1) of this subsection, a member of the
6 General Assembly or an executive officer shall not file a disclosure if the
7 travel is fully paid by the member or executive officer, this State, another state,
8 or the federal government.

9 (b) Contents and design of disclosure.

10 (1) A member of the General Assembly or an executive officer shall
11 disclose, in writing:

12 (A) the purpose of the travel;

13 (B) whether the travel was purely in the member's or executive
14 officer's official capacity or made for another purpose;

15 (C) the itinerary of travel, including dates of travel and any stopover
16 or intentional visit to another location prior to the destination of travel;

17 (D) with reasonable particularity, any expense payment or
18 reimbursement received for all costs associated with transportation to and from
19 any destination, and food, refreshments, tickets and admissions, entertainment,
20 lodging, and anything else of value, whether for cost or in kind, associated
21 with the travel;

1 (E) the date of any expense payment or reimbursement; and

2 (F) which elements of associated travel costs were orchestrated or
3 paid for or provided by:

4 (i) the State;

5 (ii) the member's or executive officer's own person; or

6 (iii) any other sources, including associations, lobbyists, political
7 committees and parties, and individuals.

8 (2) A member of the General Assembly or an executive officer shall
9 attest to the veracity and completeness of the disclosed information and sign
10 and date the disclosure.

11 (3) Disclosure forms shall, where appropriate, be designed by the State
12 Ethics Commission.

13 (c) Filing date. A member of the General Assembly or an executive officer
14 shall file the disclosure within 30 calendar days following the date on which
15 any costs associated with the travel are incurred.

16 (d) Supplemental disclosure. A member of the General Assembly or an
17 executive officer shall file with the State Ethics Commission, or as otherwise
18 directed by law, a supplemental disclosure in accordance with section 1203 of
19 this title if a particular matter involving the payer or orchestrator of any
20 expense or reimbursement detailed in subdivision (b)(1)(D) of this section

1 comes before the member or executive officer during the six months following
2 such acceptance or reimbursement.

3 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

4 This act shall take effect on July 1, 2026.